

## PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant: Steven J. Berry and Marianne E. Berry

MAY 26 2004

For: GAS CYLINDER BASE

Serial No.: 10/604,008

Examiner: Amy J. Sterling

Filed: June 20, 2003

Group Art Unit: 3632

Atty. Docket: 71501-0002

Confirmation No.: 1007

OFFICIAL

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to Examiner Amy J. Sterling at 703-305-3597.

Rebecca L. Shilt  
Signature

Date: May 26, 2004

Rebecca L. Shilt  
(type or print name of person certifying)

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**  
**REQUIRING ELECTION OF SPECIES**

This paper is in response to the Office action mailed May 3, 2004. In the Office action mailed May 3, 2004, an election of species was required between the following allegedly patentably distinct species:

Examiner's Species I: Figs. 1-3;

Examiner's Species II: Fig. 4;

Examiner's Species III: Fig. 5.

The Election Requirement is traversed.

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The Examiner asserts that no claim is generic. Applicants assert that claims 1 and 17 read on each of the Examiner's Species I-III identified above, and are therefore generic.

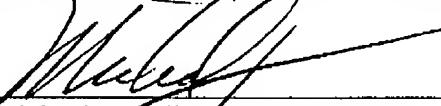
Applicants further assert that all of the claims relate to a gas cylinder base having at least one fastener for attaching the gas cylinder base to a gas cylinder.

Applicants provisionally elect with traverse and without prejudice the Examiner's Species I for prosecution on the merits. Claims 1-11, 14, 15, 17-27, 30, and 31 are readable on the Examiner's Species I.

Respectfully submitted,

STEVEN J. BERRY AND MARIANNE E. BERRY

Dated: 5/26/04

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